1   62.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly
2   embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method
3   steps for notifying a family of users of about a non-operating area of a wireless network,
4   said method steps comprising:

5   providing a database of non-operating areas of the wireless network;

6   one of the users entering a trip route to a G.P.S. in a computing system in the
7   one user's vehicle; and

8   said vehicle querying the database to download the map for dead zones in the
9   trip route; and

10   comparing the trip route with the map for dead zones.

1   63.   (Original) A program storage device readable by machine as recited in claim 62,
2   said method steps further comprising recommending a changed route having a reduced
3   area of dead zones.

1   64.   (Original) A program storage device readable by machine as recited in claim 63,
2   wherein the changed route is shown on a G.P.S. screen in the vehicle.

1   65.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine as recited
2   in claim 62, said method steps further comprising querying the G.P.S. system and
3   providing a warning signal to the user indicating that the vehicle is approaching a dead
4   zone.

1   66.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine as recited
2   in claim 62 65, wherein the warning signal includes an audible alarm.

1   67.   (Currently Amended) A method for notifying a family of users of dead zones in

2   a wireless network:

3   providing a database of non-operating areas of the wireless network forming

4   dead zones;

5   one of said users entering a trip route into a ~~G.P.S.~~ system within a vehicle; ~~and~~

6   said vehicle querying the database to download a map showing any dead zones

7   in the trip route<u>; and</u>

8   <u>comparing the trip route with the map for dead zones</u>.

1   68.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 67, further comprising recommending a

2   changed route having a reduced area of dead zones.

1   69.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 68, wherein the changed route is shown

2   on a G.P.S. screen in the vehicle.

1   70.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 67, further comprising activating a

2   warning signal to the one user when the vehicle is approaching a dead zone.

1   71.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 70, wherein the warning signal includes

2   an audible signal.

1   72.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 67, further comprising the one user

2   making a database query of network reception dead zones, and a network management

3   station responding and determining if the one user is in or near a dead zone, and

4   notifying the one user when the step of determining locates the user in or near a dead

5   zone.

1   73.   (Original) A method as recited in claim 72, wherein the network management

2   station can inform the user of an appropriate step to take to maintain connectivity.

1 74. (New) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a
2 program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps to detect
3 dead zones in a wireless network, said network having a plurality of users being
4 interconnected within the wireless network and having a plurality of base stations
5 communicating with said plurality of users in a plurality of cells corresponding to said
6 base stations and said network having means for locating users within cells, said method
7 comprising:

8 a first user of said plurality of users communicating via said wireless network,

9 the first user measuring and detecting a message error rate while communicating,

10 said first user broadcasting an error message to a base station when the error rate
11 exceeds an error threshold level,

12 said base station obtaining a location of the first user,

13 said base station incorporating the location of the first user in a database of dead zones
14 for the wireless network; and

15 said base station transmitting a warning message to others of said plurality of users near
16 the location of the first user.

1 75. (New) A device as recited in claim 74, wherein each of a subset of the users
2 has a mobile unit forming a mobile user connection with the wireless network , whereby
3 said network maintains information on the location of said subset of users within said
4 set of cells.

5 76. (New) A device as recited in claim 74, wherein the wireless network includes
6 a plurality of cellular phones.

1 77. (New) A device as recited in claim 74, wherein the wireless network includes
2 a plurality of portable computing devices interconnected via a wireless local area
3 network.